(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 352 194 (13) A

(43) Date of Printing by UK Office 24.01.2001

- (21) Application No 0019749.1
- (22) Date of Filing 19.02.1999
- (30) Priority Data
 - (31) 981440
- (32) 20.02.1998
- (31) 9811882
- (32) 28.12.1998
- (86) International Application Data PCT/GB99/00527 En 19.02.1999
- International Publication Data WO99/42214 En 26.08.1999
- (71) Applicant(s)

Sasol Technology (Proprietary) Limited (Incorporated in South Africa) 1 Sturdee Avenue, Rosebank, Johannesburg, South Africa

(72) Inventor(s)

Peter Jacobus Van Berge Jan Van De Loosdrecht Elsie Adriana Caricato Sean Barradas

(51) INT CL7

B01J 33/00 23/75 37/02, C07C 1/04

(52) UK CL (Edition S)

B1E ECA E1145 E1180 E1208 E1298 E1318 E1331 E1342 E1345 E1351 E1363 E1381 E1382 E1392 E1441 E1462 E1463 E1473 E1476 E1491 E1513 E1514 E1518 E1616 E1631 E1632 E1633 E1634 E1701 E1703 E1719 E1720 E1721 E1722 E1723 E1724 E1725 E1738 E1739

(56) Documents Cited by ISA

EP 0586196 A

EP 0141596 A

WO 97/20216 A

US 5169821 A

Field of Search by ISA INT CL7 B01J, C07C

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service

Marks & Clerk 57-60 Lincoln's Inn Fields, LONDON, WC2A 3LS, **United Kingdom**

Process for producing hydrocarbons from a synthesis gas and catalysts therefor

(57) A method of treating a catalyst support comprises introducing onto and/or into an untreated catalyst support which is partially soluble in an aqueous acid solution and/or a neutral aqueous solution, Si, Zr, Cu, Zn, Mn, Ba, Co, Ni and/or La as a modifying component. The modifying component is capable, when present in and/or on the catalyst support, of suppressing the solubility of the catalyst support in the aqueous acid solution and/or the neutral aqueous solution. A protected modified catalyst support which is less soluble or more inert in the aqueous acid solution and/or the neutral aqueous solution, than the untreated catalyst support, is thus formed. A method of forming a catalyst from the modified catalyst support is also provided.